

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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May 24, 2013

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*for*

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

**RE: California Register of Historical Resources  
California Air and Space Museum/Sketch Foundation Gallery**

Dear Board of Supervisors:

As required by the California Code of Regulations, California Register of Historical Resources (Title 14, Chapter 11.5), Section 4855(c)(4), I am writing to inform you that at its regular meeting on November 9, 2012, the State Historical Resources Commission (Commission) designated the California Air and Space Museum/Sketch Foundation Gallery in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County as eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register), and accepted it for official listing in the California Register. Enclosed is a copy of the Commission's Findings.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Jay Correia of the Registration Unit at (916) 445-7008.

Sincerely,

*Carol Roland Nawi, Ph.D.*

Carol Roland-Nawi  
State Historic Preservation Officer

**California Register of Historical Resources  
California Aerospace Museum  
Los Angeles, Los Angeles County  
State Historical Resources Commission Findings**

On November 9, 2012 at the regular quarterly meeting of the State Historical Resources Commission, held in San Diego, San Diego County, California, the State Historical Resources Commission listed the California Aerospace Museum in the California Register of Historical Resources. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 11.5, Section 4855.c.3, the State Historical Resources Commission shall adopt written findings describing the resource and identifying its historical or cultural significance and identifying those criteria on which any determination is based.

Completed in 1984 the California Aerospace Museum was Master Architect Frank Gehry's first major public project. With its large open interior and an exterior comprised of colliding and distorted polygons the building is considered by critics and historians to be the quintessential example of Gehry's warehouse/collision typology. Angular, metal-clad polygons, irregular heptagons, triangular prisms, and off-centered windows contrast with regular rectangular shapes clad in stucco. By the early 1980s, Gehry's design vocabulary shifted from his "perpetual construction typology" towards finished forms manipulated through abstraction and distortion. The California Aerospace Museum falls within the post-perpetual construction phase of the architect's career.

The California Aerospace Museum eligible for the California Register under Criterion 3 as a seminal work of Master Architect Frank Gehry that embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and period of architecture. The California Aerospace Museum has been recognized by historians as a definitive work and the most important example of Gehry's warehouse/collision typology. It was Gehry's first project to garner significant national and international attention and represents a distinct design phase in the architect's career. The California Aerospace Museum meets California Register Special Consideration 2 because sufficient time has passed to obtain a scholarly perspective on Frank Gehry's career and the importance of the Museum in his career.

With this signature, it is hereby certified that the State Historical Resources Commission adopted these findings pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 11.5, Section 4855 on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2012.



Bryan K. Brandes  
SHRC Chairperson

9 Nov. 2012

Date